

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-11 are now pending in this application, with claim 11 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,720,223 (Meschi) in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,889,939 (Faltin).

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Messchi and Faltin and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,620,466 (Jumel).

Before discussing the cited prior art and the Examiner's rejections of the claims in view of that art, a brief description of the subject matter described in the present application is deemed appropriate to facilitate understanding of the arguments for patentability. The description is not meant to argue unclaimed subject matter.

The present invention relates to a method for cross cutting a web having a repeated sequence of at least two pages with different heights, wherein the repeated sequence is printed for each rotation of the plate cylinder of a web-fed rotary printing press (see e.g., paragraph [0010] of the application as filed). The motor 6 of the knife cylinder 7 has a movement sequence predefined which is selected from a memory of the computing and storage unit 9 (see paragraph [0012]). The movement sequences for implementing the cut lengths are predefined in accordance with the rotary position of the plate cylinder 1 (see paragraph [0013]). That is, the movement sequence of the knife cylinder 7 is synchronized with the rotary position of the plate cylinder 1.

Independent claim 11 recites "printing the web with the repeated sequence of at least two printed pages with different heights in a web-fed rotary printing press having a plate cylinder driven by a plate cylinder motor, wherein the repeated sequence of at least two printed

pages with different heights is printed for each rotation of the plate cylinder”, “communicating a rotary position of the plate cylinder from the plate cylinder motor to the computing and storage unit”, and “selecting one of the movement sequences from the memory based on the communicated rotary position of the plate cylinder and transferring corresponding instructions to the cutting cylinder motor”.

Meschi fails to teach or suggest the above limitations because Meschi fails to teach or suggest (1) a repeated sequence of at least two printed pages with different heights is printed for each rotation of a plate cylinder, (2) that the movement sequence of a cutting cylinder depends on a rotary position of a plate cylinder.

Meschi relates to a transversal perforating apparatus and respective perforating method for data printers fed by continuous paper having lateral holes (see col. 1, lines 23-34; and col. 3, lines 18-23). According to Meschi, a strip of paper 1 is acted on by printing heads 2, 3 and fed through a perforating apparatus 12 with a perforating roller 13 (see col. 3, lines 3-10; and Fig. 1 of Meschi). A dragging device 17 includes sprockets which engage lateral holes 20 on the sides of the strip 1 to advance the strip, i.e., drag the strip of paper through the printer (col. 3, lines 15-22). A perforating blade 16 is arranged on the roller so that a perforation is made orthogonally to the longitudinal border thereof (col. 4, lines 5-10). Furthermore, the speed of the roller 13 and blade 16 can be varied as shown in Figs. 6A, 6B, 6C, and 6D to produce transverse perforations at any predetermined distance from one another (col. 4, lines 14-33). Meschi further discloses encoders 26 and 18 at the printing head 2 and dragging device 17, respectively (see Fig. 1; and col. 3, lines 23-29 and col. 4, lines 64-67). The encoders 26, 18 monitor the advancement of the paper strip and the operation of these encoders is described, for example, at col. 3, lines 30-39 of Meschi. The length between transverse perforations in Meschi is

communicated to an encoder 22 associated with the perforating roller 13 by a central processor 24 (col. 4, line 60 - col. 5, line 3). Thus, the length between perforations in Meschi has nothing to do with a rotary position of a plate cylinder.

Since Meschi relates to data printers for paper having lateral holes using dragger devise to feed the paper and since Meschi fails to disclose printers with plate cylinders, Meschi fails to disclose “printing the web with the repeated sequence of at least two printed pages with different heights in a web-fed rotary printing press having a plate cylinder driven by a plate cylinder motor, wherein the repeated sequence of at least two printed pages with different heights is printed for each rotation of the plate cylinder”, as expressly recited in independent claim 11.

Furthermore, since Meschi discloses that the length of the printed page is determined by a central processor based on data of the printing head, Meschi fails to disclose teach or suggest “communicating a rotary position of the plate cylinder from the plate cylinder motor to the computing and storage unit” and “selecting one of the movement sequences from the memory based on the communicated rotary position of the plate cylinder and transferring corresponding instructions to the cutting cylinder motor”, as expressly recited in independent claim 11.

Faltin fails to disclose that which Meschi lacks. Faltin discloses an auxiliary cut-off unit for web printing presses and method of forming severed pieces. However, the cutter assembly 70 disclosed by Faltin is the same as the prior art cutters disclosed by the present application. More specifically, to produce cut webs of various lengths, a plurality of interchangeable gears are respectively connected to produce various gear ratios and thus, various length cuts. Since Faltin discloses that the length between cuts depends on the gears connected

to the shafts of the cutting assembly 70, Faltin fails to disclose “communicating a rotary position of the plate cylinder from the plate cylinder motor to the computing and storage unit” and “selecting one of the movement sequences from the memory based on the communicated rotary position of the plate cylinder and transferring corresponding instructions to the cutting cylinder motor”, as expressly recited in independent claim 11.

Accordingly, the combined teachings of Meschi and Faltin fail to disclose, teach or suggest the limitations of independent claim 11.

Dependent claims 9-10 are allowable for the same reasons as is independent claim 11, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions, or objections, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned in order to facilitate reaching a resolution of any outstanding issues.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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